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Message Text

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43
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 OMB-01 AEC-11 CU-04 H-03 SS-20

NSC-10 DRC-01 /164 W
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P R 191803Z OCT 73
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8192
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

S E C R E T BONN 15232

VIENNA FOR MBFR DEL

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO, GW
SUBJECT: MBFR: PRE-REDUCTION CONSTRAINTS

REF: A) VIENNA 8582 B) VIENNA 8584 C) BONN 14949

1. DURING OCTOBER 19 CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, RUTH CONFIRMED THAT FRG POSITION ON PRE-REDUCTION CONSTRAINTS REMAINS UNDER INTENSIVE REVIEW BUT THAT POINTS MADE BY AMBASSADOR BEHRENDS TO US MBFR REP AND DEPREP (REF A) REFLECT CURRENT FONOFF THINKING.

2. IN PARTICULAR, FONOFF PRESENTLY INCLINED TO PREFER THAT PRE-REDUCTION CONSTRAINTS BE LIMITED TO MEASURE I IN PARA 23 OF NATO PAPER (NOTIFICATION OF ENTRY INTO
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NGA OF US AND SOVIET FORCES) AND PERHAPS TO MEASURE II

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(PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF MANEUVERS BY ALL DIRECT PARTICI-
PANTS). RUTH EMPHASIZED THAT PRE-REDUCTION MEASURES
SHOULD BE LIMITED IN TIME (I.E., TO THE NEGOTIATIONS)
AND TO GROUND FORCES, AND SHOULD NOT ENTAIL OR IMPLY A
CEILING ON EQUIPMENT. HE SAID BONN CONTINUED TO BELIEVE
THAT MEASURE III (LIMITS ON SIZE, LOCATIONS, NUMBER AND
DURATION OF MAJOR EXERCISES) SHOULD BE DEALT WITH LATER
AND CAREFULLY EXAMINED FOR ITS IMPLICATIONS VIS-A-VIS
WESTERN DEFENSE; HOWEVER, BONN PRESENTLY IS TAKING
ANOTHER LOOK AT MEASURE III. RUTH SAID MEASURE IV
(EXCHANGE OF OBSERVERS AT MANEUVERS) SHOULD BE DROPPED,
AS IT TENDS TO ARTIFICIALLY AND UNDULY DIFFERENTIATE
BETWEEN AMERICAN AND OTHER NATO ALLIED FORCES. RUTH
EMPHASIZED THAT HE COULD NOT IMAGINE THE APPLICATION
OF MEASURES II OR IV BEING LIMITED STRICTLY TO US AND
SOVIET FORCES.

3. RUTH SAID BONN WOULD NOT OBJECT TO DROPPING PARA 31
OF THE US OPENING STATEMENT (STATE 207141). RUTH SAID
HE SHARED THE US RATIONALE FOR DROPPING THE COMMITTMENT
TO SELF-RESTRAINT REGARDING "SIZE, CHARACTER, AND
ACTIVITES OF MILITARY FORCES" IN CENTRAL EUROPE DURING
NEGOTIATIONS. HOWEVER, IF THIS WESTERN SUGGESTION IS
DROPPED FROM THE US OPENING STATEMENT AND IF THE US ALSO
OPPOSES A KIND OF "I-BIS" PRE-REDUCTION MEASURE BARRING
CHANGES IN THE NGA MILITARY POSITION OF BOTH SIDES
DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS, THE QUESTION ARISES WHETHER THIS
PROBLEM CAN BE DEALT WITH IN SOME OTHER MORE INFORMAL
WAY AT AN EARLY POINT IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. RUTH SAID
HE WOULD HAVE TO STUDY THIS MATTER FURTHER.

4. AS TO MBFR CONSTRAINTS AREA, IN RECALLING GERMAN
ALLERGY TO BEING PLACED IN A SPECIAL ZONE, RUTH LAID
THE EMPHASIS AS HE HAS BEFORE ON "DOING SOMETHING ABOUT
HUNGARY". RUTH DID NOT APPEAR TO TAKE TOO SERIOUSLY
BEHRENDS' SUGGESTION (REF A-PARA 2H) CONCERNING THE
USE OF NORWAY AND DENMARK AS COUNTERPARTS TO SOVIET
WESTERN MILITARY DISTRICTS IN AN EXPANDED MBFR CON-
STRAINTS AREA. RUTH SAID IT WOULD BE EASY TO REBUT
SOVIET ARGUMENT THAT US TERRITORY WOULD HAVE TO MATCH
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ANY SOVIET TERRITORY BROUGHT INTO CONSTRAINTS AREA.
EMBOFF SAID THIS MIGHT BE TRUE FROM A LOGICAL STANDPOINT
BUT THAT STRICT SOVIET ADHESION TO SIMPLISTIC ARGUMEN-
TATION ON FBS DURING SALT NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD NOT BE
OVERLOOKED AND THAT WASHINGTON DOES NOT WISH TO GET INTO
THIS CAN OF WORMS WITH MOSCOW DURING MBFR NEGOTIATIONS.
HILLENBRAND

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